

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/872,859

Examiner

Hussein A. El-chanti

Applicant(s)

MARL ET AL.

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2157

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 12/18/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2,4-11 and 21-26.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_

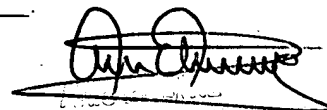
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  5. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
    - (b) ☒ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date 20070313.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

## Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_



### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. This action is responsive to response received on Dec. 18, 2006.
2. Formal drawings are required to be submitted by the applicant.
3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Scott McKeown on March 8, 2007.

3. The application has been amended as follows:

- **Claim 2 (currently amended)** A method for determining information for accessing an electronic mail account according to an electronic mail protocol, comprising:

receiving an address for delivering electronic mail to an electronic mail account;

receiving a password for accessing the electronic mail account;

extracting, from the address, a user name and an electronic mail account domain for the electronic mail account; and

determining whether the electronic mail account domain, user name and password can be used to access the electronic mail account according to the electronic mail protocol, wherein the step of determining whether the electronic mail account domain, user name and password can be used to access the electronic mail account according to the electronic mail protocol includes determining if the electronic mail

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account domain is included in a list of closed domains the do not include server computers employing the electronic mail protocol; and

if the electronic mail account domain is not included in the list of closed domains:  
accessing a list of known domains, such that at least one server computer known  
to employ the electronic mail protocol is associated with each of the known domains;  
mapping the electronic mail account domain against the list of known domains;  
and

if the electronic mail account domain is included in the list of known domains,  
attempting to access the electronic mail account at one or more of the server  
computers associated with the electronic mail account domain using the user name and  
password.

- **Claim 3 (canceled)**

**Claim 21 (currently amended)** A method of determining information for accessing an electronic mail account according to an electronic mail protocol, comprising:

receiving an address for delivering electronic mail to an electronic mail account;  
receiving a password for accessing the electronic mail account;  
extracting, from the address, a user name and an electronic mail account domain for the electronic mail account; and

determining whether the electronic mail account domain, user name and password can be used to access the electronic mail account according to the electronic mail protocol, wherein the step of determining whether the electronic

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mail account domain, user name and password can be used to access the electronic mail account according to the electronic mail protocol includes:

concatenating a server name prefix with the electronic mail account domain to form a default name for a server computer; and

attempting to access the electronic mail account according to the electronic mail protocol by using the default name, the user name and the password;

determining if the electronic mail account domain is included in a list of closed domains the do not include server computers employing the electronic mail protocol;  
and

if the electronic mail account domain is not included in the list of closed domains:  
accessing a list of known domains, such that at least one server computer known to employ the electronic mail protocol is associated with each of the known domains;  
mapping the electronic mail account domain against the list of known domains;  
and

if the electronic mail account domain is included in the list of known domains,  
attempting to access the electronic mail account at one or more of the server computers associated with the electronic mail account domain using the user name and password.

- **Claim 28: canceled.**
- **Claim 29: canceled.**
- **Claim 31: canceled.**

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4. Claims 2, 4-11 and 21-26 are allowed.

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record does not teach neither singly or in combination the limitations "determining if the electronic mail account domain is included in a list of closed domains the do not include server computers employing the electronic mail protocol; and if the electronic mail account domain is not included in the list of closed domains: accessing a list of known domains, such that at least one server computer known to employ the electronic mail protocol is associated with each of the known domains; mapping the electronic mail account domain against the list of known domains; and if the electronic mail account domain is included in the list of known domains, attempting to access the electronic mail account at one or more of the server computers associated with the electronic mail account domain using the user name and password" as in claims 2, 4-11 and 21-26.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hussein A. El-chanti whose telephone number is (571)272-3999. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:30-5:00.


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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on (571)272-4001. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Hussein El-chanti

March 13, 2007

  
ARIO ETIENNE  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100